SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 1830.

The regular directation of THE SUN for the week ending Jun. 24, 1880, 10-12; 110.69 115.69 115.69 122,130 Total for the week ......

The Democrats of New York-Their Situation and Prospects.

Our esteemed contemporary, the Evening L'epress, says:

"The division in the Democracy of this State was caused by Mr. Tupes himself, who forced the nomination of his cambilate for flovernor on the party in spite of the carriest and emphatic protests of thousands of life-ling Democrata. For the only division there is in the Democratic party Sawes, J. Thinks is solely responsible. The 80,080 Democratic who voted against Tildenism last fall are carriestly working for national harmony and success, and they opposed Mr Tripks then, and oppose him stil, because he means division and would insure

Is not this a little like the old story of the juror who complained that eleven of his fellows obstinately refused to agree to a verdiet? However numerous the KELLY men in this State may be, it is indisputable that the TILDEN men are much more numerous. Before the election Mr. KELLY boasted that he would beat Gov. Robinson by fifty thousand majority, but the election showed his arithmetic to be sadly out of joint.

Wa, for our part, can understand only one way in which a party can be successful; and that is for the majority to rule, in making nominations as in everything else. If the KELLY branch of the party can dictate the rejection of one candidate, against the will of the majority, then another branch of the party can dictate the rejection another candidate, against the will the majority, until every available candidate shall have been successively shut off from a nomination. So if a minority of the party can dictate the rejection of one particular candidate, it may logically say that neither of two, or no one of seven shall be nominated. It gives to the minority the power which rightfully belongs to the majority. The power to reject is in principle, and often in practice, the power to select.

It seems to us ridiculous for the KELLY men, who have been demonstrated to be in the minority, to expect the TILDEN men, who have been proved to be largely in the majority, to submit to their dictation and to fall submissively into the ranks in the rear and to follow their leader, even to victory. Perhaps they will do it; we have no objection; but it would be a sign that the millennium is near at hand.

We should like to see Sanford E. Church President of the United States. We believe he would make a pure and able Administration. We believe that if Judge CHURCH and his friends and Mr. TILDEN and his friends were in harmony, Judge CHURCH could carry this State against any Republican candidate who could named. So, probably, might Mr. TILDEN carry the State if he were in harmony with Judge CHURCH. But at the same time we know they are not in harmony; and while we think this is wholly Mr. TILDEN'S fault, we none the less recognize the fact. He is a weak and foolish politician whodares not at all times to look upon the truth. as it exists; and this is the truth. Of course we have no means of knowing what Mr. TILDEN will do which are not possessed by every one else. We presume he would disclaim any intention to do anything like what we have hinted at. But if he were to protest as much as Horatio Seymour protests that he is not a candidate for President, we should nevertheless expect to see any candidate for President nominated without his earnest good will sadly in the minority when the vote of New York comes to

be counted. We may misjudge Mr. TILDEN. We may wholly mistake him. It may be a great injustice to him to place him in this particular on a level with Mr. KELLY and Mr. FIELD; but in our opinion if any Democrats expect to carry the State of New York for a candidate who is not Mr. TILDEN's candidate, they should be christened anew and be known hereafter as The Innocents.

# More Light Wanted.

Mr. SPARKS, Chairman of the Military Affairs Committee, carried a resolution through the House a few days ago directing the Secretary of War to report the number. rank, names, and annual pay of officers of the army on the retired list the total aggregate amount paid to retired officers since the retired list was created.

A proper answer to this inquiry will show what sum of money has been paid to each retired officer of the army, and the total expenditure on this account. That information in a condensed form, so as to be easily understood, has long been wanted to enable the taxpayer to see how much of the revonue has been and is still appropriated to a | the funds required from his own savings. preferred class who render no service. But Mr. SPARKS can supplement this in-

quiry by another, calling for all the payments, allowances, emoluments, and extras of every kind paid to officers on the active list since the close of the civil war, designating in detail the items, and the authority of law under which they were paid. The country is entitled to know exactly what extra pay.

It will be said, perhaps, that an answer may be collated from existing public documents. That may or may not be true, but It is sufficient to know that it is not to be obtained, if at all, without long and laborious research through a multitude of official papers, and then only by an expert, skilled in the methods practised by the War

Department in making allowances. Tens of thousands of useless documents are published by Congress, at an expense of round, to keep up the Government printing office and the Ring of jobbers that thrive by this glaring prodigality. A very large proportion of those publications go either to | Gen. Haunan describes his taking a corps of | rather than facility with the pen. But ington. This chameful system goes on almost without question, or with only weak | and back again to Cabul. opposition, because of a venul combination,

in which both parties are represented. But when an attempt is made to get at the bottom facts of expenditure in the army and to uncover the whole system of favoritism. by which the annual budget is bardened, some convenient friend in the House is always shocked at the cost to be incurred for printing and compiling valuable informa-

Therefore Mr. SPARKS is in a position to of the retired list. One is quite as desirable troops might not be far distant. It is worth other business or profession. And when

Treasury for running the military machine outside of the rank and file.

#### The New Atghan Pretenders.

At first sight it was supposed that the putting forward of Moosa Khan, the eldest son of YAKOOB, as a claimant of the Afghan throne, might have some political importance. Not that MAHOMED JAN could expect to kindle among the tribes of the interior-the Durants, the Ghilzais, and the Kohistanis-an uprising at all comparable with that which recently miscarried. But the mother of Moosa Khan was a princess of the Mohmunds, the most powerful and warlike of the hill tribes commanding the passes to India, and with their assistance it was thought that British communications could be cut. These calculations were partly justified. No sooner had the son of their princess escaped from Cabul than the Mohmunds rose in force. They had waited too long, and they were decisively beaten by the English columns. This overthow of the Mohmund power, which has always | gaining their livelihood by literary labor. been regarded as the most formidable along the border, may be said to dispose of Moosa Khan's pretensions to occupy his father's throne.

The pretended flight, however, of SHERE ALI'S nephew, ABDUL RAHMAN Khan, from Tashkent, and his appearance at Balkh, are events that bode some trouble to the English army of occupation. His title to the Afghan throne is little, if at all, weaker than YAKOOB Khan's; he possesses, on various grounds, commanding influence in the provinces north of the Hindoo Koosh; while his almost regal treatment at Russian headquarters during the past ten years suggests that Gen. KAUFMANN's hand may be detected in this movement. The story of this Afghan pretender, since he first attracted notice some fifteen years ago, may be read with interest in view of the existing complications in Central Asia.

It will have been observed that all the competitors for the place vacated by YAKOOB Khan belong to the latter's family. We hear of no claims put forward by the Ghilzais, although there are said to be descendants living of the chief Mir VAIS, who, in 1709, snatched Candahar from the Persians, and first in modern times taught the Afghans that they had a national dignity and destiny. Neither has anything been seen during the present crisis of the second Afghan dynasty, founded in 1747 by AHMED Khan, the head of the Sudosve branch of the great clan of the Abdalis located in and about Herat. It was AHMED who assumed the title Duri-i-Duran (meaning Pearl of the Age), on which account the Abdali clan have since been known as the Duranis. It was one of his successors who was displaced by Dost Mohammed, the head of the Barucksye branch of the same dominant tribe. A representative of the Sudosye line is now living in British India, but there is no reason to suppose that he could command a following anywhere except in Herat, which has always been well disposed to the older branch of the Duranis. ABDUL RAHMAN Khan, on the other hand, is a grandson of Dost MOHAMMED, and may well be regarded by his countrymen as the rightful exponent of the great Barucksye house which is credited with the triumph over ELPHINSTONE in 1841, and with maintaining the independence of Afghanistan for the past forty years.

After the death of Dost Mohammed in 1863, SHERE ALI'S claim to the succession was disputed by his brothers, and after much indecisive fighting he was routed at Khelat-i-Ghilzais, and abandoned by most of his adherents. His brother AFZUL was thereupon formally recognized by Lord Lawrence as Ameer of Cabui and Candahar in a very gracious letter dated February. 1867. Within the twelvemonth AFZUL died. and soon after SHERE ALI recovered his dominions, chiefly through the abilities of AFZUL'S SOD, ABDUL RAHMAN, was comlled to find a place of refuge within Russian territory. His nephew's escape was a | laboring at it for them to spend time in gossubject of much perturbation to SHERE ALL sipping about what they are doing; and on account of the hold ABDUL RAHMAN had secured on the people of Afghan Turkistan, both by marriage with a Badakshi Princess and also through his residence among them as Governor. His apprehensions were aggravated when he saw the Afghan fugitive treated with the highest honors by Gen. KAUPMANN, and supplied with a magnificent allowance by the Russian Government.

According to SCHUYLER, who visited Tashkent in 1874, ABDUL RAHMAN Khan, besides receiving an annual stipend of twenty-five thousand roubles, was considered to be in the Russian service, and held a rank which, amount paid to each retired officer, and the | though the American visitor does not define it, could not, in view of the emoluments, be other than one of the highest. Not content, however, with this pay, he had just then petitioned Gen. KAUFMANN for 100,000 roubles, with which he proposed to assert his right to the throne and put down SHERE ALL The request was refused, but SCHUY-LER tells us that the Afghan Prince was living thriftily, and was likely to soon amass

It has for some time been believed that in case England should assume a dominant position at Cabul, ABDUL RAHMAN might be put forward as a claimant for sovereignty in the principalities lying between the Oxus and | multiplication of newspapers and their in Hindoo Koosh. We may note here that Gen. KAUFMANN, to whom the Afghan boundary question was referred by the Russian Foreign Office, decided that Balkh, Badakshan, these officers cost, both in regular and in and Hakhan did not belong to Afghanistan, good. Thousands of capable men, young but were either independent or feudatory to | and old, find in their service permanent or at all events, has belonged by turns during the past half century to the Ameer of DOST MOHAMMED'S SOD, and, curiously enough, an American adventurer, Gen. HARLAN, at its head. It was this American, by the way, who settled a question even now much discussed by those ignorant of afflatus of which our friend speaks. about five thousand dollars a day the year | his performance, whether aftillery could be carried through the passes of the Hindoo Koosh. In an account of his remarkable expedition published at Philadelphia in 1842, the junk shops or to traders about Wash- the Afghan army with twenty-six pieces of artitlery through the Bamian Pass to Balkh, | apprenticeship does not need to be served;

The fact that such an instrument as ABDUL RAHMAN was held in reserve doubtless counted for something in bringing SHERE ALI into friendly relations with Russia. Gen. KAUPMANN had it in his power to force on that unlucky monarch the alternative of alliance or a formidable insurrection in his own States. In that case a threat their inexperience in competition with seems to have sufficed, and up to the prestion that every taxpayer should possess, and | ent time it has been unnecessary for Russia every legislator should have at hand before | to play this trump eard. Just now, however, the alleged escape of the Afghan Prince may be turned to exceptional account. The intrender a public service by requiring such a | ter's relative, Mir Baba Khan, has made statement as we have suggested to be pre- himself master of Badakshan, and probably pared, in order that the cost of officers on | with his assistance the whole district north the active list, dating with the close of the of the Hindoo Koosh could be held against | very profitable business it can only be purrebellion, may stand side by side with that the English until spring, when Russian

a perfect knowledge of the charge on the | ment, that Capt. BYKOFF's recent survey has proved the Oxus to be navigable as high up as the frontier of Badakshan, and that a steam flotilla is already in process of construction for the navigation of that river. On the whole, we may be sure that ABDUL RAHMAN represents an appreciable force in Afghan politics. Otherwise the Russian Government would not have offered such elaborate explanations of his reception to the English Government in the first instance, nor would they have granted him an allowance which by this time must have yielded a quarter of a million of roubles.

#### Taking Up Literature as a Business.

Several young men have written to us to ask for practical suggestions as to the proper course for them to pursue in order to fit themselves to make a living by writing for newspapers and other periodicals. What THE SUN said recently of the advantages of literature as a business or profession has taken root in their minds, and they would enroll themselves among those who are

Of these letters the following is a sample: "Sin: I have always had the idea that some ' touch of the divine afflatus' was needed by even a penny-a-liner. and never having felt that I had anything to say that

people in general wished to hear, have never attempted to get a hearing.
"Your article on 'Literature as a Business' has raised a hope that there may be some chance for one who is willing to be a mere plodder, in newspaper work, and I have determined to try it, can I but find how to begin. 'I am what a novelist would call 'still a young man. I have not 'first-rate abilities in journalism' or any-thing else, so far as discovered, but I have the average quantity of brains, and perhaps more than the average quantity of general information. This last is probably shallow, although some have flattered me into believing it broad. I have made a more or less conspicuous failure

of my outward life hitherto. "I know nothing whatever of the requirements of or qualifications for newspaper work. I have sometimes thought I could write better articles than some I have seen in so-called first-class logranis. This may be a de lusion which an effort to realize would dispel. I have met in society and business literary men who did no seem immeasurably beyond my own intellectual stature This also may have been appearance only, and a serious wrestle might have disclosed a grant.
"I have lived much in the world, in business and society.

I think I know men, their minds, manners, and morals. I have a preity thorough knowledge of classical English literature and of the leading minds in the literature of other modern languages; Latin and Greek, of course. "But enough of myself. I will only add that I have employment that affords me a so-called support and leaves me more leisure than I can employ to my pecuniary

benefit Perhaps our young friend is right in thinking he could do better work than he sometimes sees in "so-called first-class journals." A great deal of stuff is printed which is very worthless. Writers are occasionally so pleased with the sound of the words they write that they forget to inquire whether they convey any substance of thought; and, indeed, it is quite possible for one trained to the business of writing to cover a column with connected sentences which may be read easily, but

which lead to nothing and make no point. Unquestionably a man may be taught to write with even elegance, though he possess little intellectual ability; but unless he has learned how to think and observe at the same time, what he produces will be of no account. There are some waning literary reputations nowadays which were built up when the public, less critical and less accustomed to substantial literary food, looked on the mere knack of writing as something mysterious and indicative of extraordinary talent. There is a much lower estimate than formerly put upon mere pretty work given out by men of fastidious tastes, perhaps, but poor intellectual equipment.

We are not surprised, therefore, that when our correspondent measures himself with some of the men who parade as literary characters, he has doubts of their superiority over him. Perhaps if he read what they wrote with a thorough knowledge of the subjects they handled, and an understanding of the machinery of literary composition, his doubts would much increase. But it is not they, or such as they, who are arrival of the Spaniards. Whence, then, did his son, Yakoon Khan. Then it was that doing the thorough and valuable work of it reach them? On this point much light is literature in these days. Literature is too, thrown by some recent investigations. serious a business to those who are patiently they do not care for the flattery of society, and are not fond of talking shop to indicate their trade.

At once dismissing the notion that the mere ability to write with facility is any evidence of superior intellectual endowments, or will secure a sure and substantial reward, our correspondent and all who, like him, wish to learn the business of literature. have got to go to work to fill the fountain from which they draw their ideas; to enrich and discipline their minds. It is true enough that the faculty of expression in writing is not given to all men in an equal degree; but when a man's ideas are clear, and he knows exactly what he wants to say he can put down his thoughts and impressions in writing. The volunteer correspondence of THE SUN shows that, if there was no other evidence. And it is a good way to test the order and clearness of your ideas, to try to write them out. If you can't make them as understandable as you would a letter such as that our friend writes us, you have much to do before you are through with your literary apprenticeship.

What, however, makes the business of literature so much more certain in its remuneration nowadays than formerly, is the creasing demand for many varieties of lit erary work. They give employment which is steady, and, compared with the pay of other business, the salaries they offer are Bokhara. It cannot be denied that Balkh, cupation. But whoever seeks to enter that sphere of labor must understand that newspapers can have no sympathy or teleration Bokhara, to the Meer of Kunduz, and to the for the moods of which he may have heard Ameer of Cabul. The latter's conquest was talk from men who have aspired to be liteffected in 1838 by an Afghan army with erary. He must work as steadily, as industriously, and as punctually as if he was the teller in a bank or the salesman in a dry goods store; and he will have no time to coudle his moods and wait for the divine

Many different kinds of talent are available in a large newspaper, some of whose work is not strictly literary, but require pains-taking accuracy and careful industry there is no employment there to which an and portions of the labor can be done only by men with a special aptitude for it which only here and there is displayed.

Therefore, to those who wish to learn the business of literature as practised in newspapers, we can only advise actual trial in no whenever they may get the chance But they must remember that they bring trained skill, and that while a newspaper may be a school of what is called journalism, the pupils must pick up their knowledge of the art by observation and practice rather than actual tuition.

Literature as a business is open to all thoroughly educated and intelligent men. unquestionably; but as a successful and sued by a picked number of them, like any as the other, and both are necessary for remembering, in connection with this move- you come to great writers, masters of a laiso thunder forth against them the awful at the Figh avenue.

grand style and coiners of wise thoughts, God must make them now as he always has done in the past.

### The Deluge in American Tradition.

One result of the special attention now given to American archeology is the careful scrutiny applied to the legends of a deluge believed to have been current among our native races. Not a few of these myths, it seems, must be consigned to the category of pious frauds, but some are held to be genuine, and the curious point about the latter is that they bear traces of importation from Asia, apparently through the Buddhist monks, who, according to Chinese annals, penetrated as far as Mexico in the fifth century of the Christian era. It is significant, for instauce, that there

was no well authenticated flood tradition among the Peruvians, and that the faint and distorted outline of the legend discovered in Central America becomes filled out and emphasized as we go north, until, in the table land of Mexico, it exhibits a surprising coincidence with the Semitic story. Thus, in Nicaragua, soon after the conquest, some of the Indians examined, at the instance of the Spanish Governor, as to the tenets of their faith, affirmed that before the present race existed the world was destroyed by water, and all became sea. They had never heard, however, that any individuals had saved themselves in a cance, or by any other way, and supposed the world to have been repeopled by a fresh creation. On the other hand, a work compiled in the Aztec language. but in Latin letters, and known to Americanists under the name of the Codex Chimalpopoca gives the following account of a deluge which closed the so-called fourth age, and immediately preceded our actual epoch: "Now at the end of the year, the God warned NATA and his spouse, NENA, saying, Make no more wine of Agave, but begin to hollow out a great cypress, and you will enter into it when in the month Tozontli the water approaches the sky.' Then they entered in, and when the GoD had closed the door he said, 'Thou shalt eat but one ear of maize, and thy wife one also.' But as soon as they had finished they went out, and the water remained calm, for the wood no longer moved, and on opening it they began to see fish." Still more striking in its conformity with the story contained in Genesis, and lately reproduced from Chaldean sources, is the tradition current in Michoacan. This tells how one TEZPI embarked in a spacious vessel with his wife, his children, and several animals and grain, whose preservation was essential to the subsistence of the human race. When the great god, Tezcatlipoca, decreed that the waters should retire, TEZPI sent a vulture from the bark. The bird, feeding on the carcasses with which the earth was laden, did not return. Texpt sent out other birds, of which the humming bird alone came back with a leafy branch in its beak. Then TEZPI, seeing that the country began to vegetate, left his bark on the mountain of Colhuacan. Another remarkable document consists of four symbolic pictures copied from a manuscript anterior to the conquest, and representing the four ages of the world preceding the present one. The fourth of these pictures exhibits the goddess of waters and the god of rain as darting down toward the earth, while the two human beings preserved are seen seated on a tree trunk and floating in the midst of the waters.

These legends are no longer deemed indigenous by archæologists. Even so concervative a writer as Lenormant recants his former opinion that the flood stories of Mexico proved the tradition of the deluge to be one of the oldest held by humanity. He now accepts the prevailing view that among American peoples this tradition was not primitive, while, on the other hand it was not borrowed from the Bible after the There is no doubt that the route of migration from Asia to America must have followed the line of the Aleutian Islands. It is just here that, according to Russian explorers, the following vestige of a diluvian egend is current: In former times the father of the Indian tribes was warned in a dream that a deluge was coming upon the earth. He built a raft, on which he saved himself with his family and all the animals. He floated thus for several months. The animals, who at that time spoke, loudly complained and murmured against him. At last a new earth appeared, on which he landed with all the animals, who from that time lost the power of speech, as a punishment for their murmurs against their deliverer. Crossing Behring's Straits, we find a meagre version of the same story at the extremity of the northeast of Asia. Passing down the Asiatic coast, we come on a diluvian legend among the Eulets or Kalmucks, where there cems to be good evidence that the narrative came in with Buddhism. It is certain that it must have been brought by Buddhist rissionaries into China, since there is no trace of it in the pre-Buddhistic literature. Indeed, the principal episode of the flood is | tual and potential. known to be pictorially represented in China only bu a single instance, and that is in a sainting of a Buddhist temple

How far these links of evidence vindicate he theory that American traditions of the deluge were imported by Buddhist propagandists cannot be positively determined until American archieology is constructed on the same scientific basis, and by the same trustworthy methods as other archivologies. Meanwhile it may be noted as a further striking coincidence that the Aztec story of the flood is blended with a conception, not drawn from the Bible, that, namely, of the our ages of the world. HUMBOLDT, long ago, pointed out the remarkable analogy between this conception and that of the four ages of India, wherein destructions of the world and renewals of humanity were supposed to alternate. It seems, at all events, not impossible that both elements of the Aztec legend might have been transmitted from a Buddhist prototype.

#### A Minister who Objects to Seeing Himself in Print.

It is strange to hear that a New England preacher, and he descended from a family of ministers renowned in Puritan theology, has been rivalling DENIS KEARNEY in vituperative speech. Yet this is what is said of the Rev. LEONARD W. BACON of the beautiful town of Norwich, in Connecticut.

He is the wrathful member of the Bacon family who last summer scourged with bitter words the authorities and the people of Norwich for permitting or taking part in excursions on Sunday to inviting places of seaside resort. Mr. Bacon has not long exereised pastoral authority in that town, but he has already shown its citizens that his notions of ministerial duty are not very different from those entertained by the New England parsons of old, when fines or an refusal to attend on their preaching. He would call sinners to repentance with the winning words of the Gospel, and he would

warnings of the law of GoD as he reads it. But all of these means falling, he does not hesitate to resort to the pains and penalties of earthly statutes, and he castigates those who offend against his judgment of what is proper conduct with language bitter in in-

vective and sharp in sarcasm.

What is now disturbing the soul and arousing the wrath of the Norwich parson? Certain selectmen of his town, members, like himself, of the Congregational Church, recommended that a license to sell intoxicating liquors be granted to the keepers of two houses said to be of notorious character. Mr. Bacon, at a public meeting last Monday, denounced these town officers in language of extraordinary violence. His speech was two hours in length, and so full of bitter personality and fierce invective that his hearers enjoyed it like a play. But what is most remarkable, a newspaper having published a stenographic report of the minister's speech, we are told that the publisher is to be prosecuted for sending obseene matter through the mails! "It is complained that this address is very immoral in its language," says the reporter of the Times. The words of a Congregational minister unfit for publication because they are offensive to decency!

But Mr. Bacon has his own complaint against the newspaper publisher of his speech. He filed its title page in Washington under the Copyright law, and has instructed his attorneys to bring sult against the editor and publisher for infringement. Yet what was Mr. Bacon's purpose in talking in public for two hours? Was it not to stir up the indignation of the citizens of Norwich against the Selectmen he so flereely assailed? The wider the publicity his speech gets the better for him, provided it is correctly and fully reported. He surely cannot expect to make money by printing it himself in a pamphlet; and if he wishes to confine its publication to that form in order that he may modify his spoken words, he displays a desire to deceive the readers as to what he actually said. He made a speech at a mass meeting, and the stenographer had a right to take it down and the editor to print it. Not only that; by so doing they vastly extended Mr. Bacon's audience, and deserved his thanks instead of his threats of a suit for damages for

such a display of enterprise. The newspaper publication, against whose accuracy we hear no complaints made, cannot fail to do good, for it shows the temper of Mr. Bacon's mind at the time he made his speech, and enables those who did not hear it to find out exactly what were the arguments and other influences he brought to bear on those within the range of his voice.

"It is thought," says the reporter of the Times, "that Mr. Bacon was more vituperstive, though more polished and scholarly, than either DAVID FROST or DENIS KEAR NEY." If that is so, the public ought to be allowed to judge for themselves from a fair report of the speech, without any alterations or excisions made by the clerical orator subsequently to its delivery, whether the thought is justified by Mr. BACON'S words.

When KEARNEY first came East, the full verbatim reports of his speeches in New York given by The SUN were all that was cessary to exhibit him as the vulgar blatherskite he is. And the Rev. Mr. Bacon will have the opportunity of being understood exactly as he is in his moments of wrath by the complete and unamended report of his Norwich address. What more can be desire?

He is behaving in a very silly way by attempting to make the publication of his remarks an offense against him for which he must be paid in damages.

# The Outlook in Maine.

Two Executive Governments cannot long exist in one State. Inevitably the exercise of executive power

by the one must soon clash with the exercise of executive power by the other. At the time of the DORR rebellion in Rhode Island the DORR Legislature was permitted to peaceably organize in a Furnace, where Welcome B. Sayles, as Speaker of the House, made the memorable speech in which he declared: " Seventeen millions of eyes are fixed upon us." Mr. SAYLES lived be disembowelled and instantly killed many years afterward at the head of a regiment he was galiantly leading in our civil war. But he lived because the joke of organizing the Dorn Legislature was coned to the Furnace Building, and was not carried to the State House. When the taking possession of the State property came to be seriously threatened, the DORR men found they had to encounter cannon, and muskets and bayonets.

There will be bloodshed in Maine if one party or the other does not desist. In our judgment the Fusionists might much better not sacrifice their lives to their folly.

in the House, on Thursday, " to make your fun alectic and rational." We commend this all the so-called Congressional humorists, ac-

Now that a derailed engine has tumbled from an elevated railroad track into the street. more or less dangerously bruising seven persons, the theorizing as to the possibility of such disasters, with the existing precautions and safeguards, comes to an abrupt end. After thing has actually happened arguments going to show the impossibility of its happening lose their interest. The practical question is how to prevent its happening again. We advise all concerned in elevated railroad management to concentrate their wits on this question.

On Tuesday night Mars and the moon were in conjunction. Owing to cloudy weather the phenomenon was not well seen here, but it sesses much interest as marking one step in the gradual approach that the path of our satelis making to Mars's place in the heavens, and which will end on March 17 in the occultaion of the flery planet. It is curious to trace this approach. When Mars and the moon met each other, in December last, they were over three degrees apart. On Tuesday night they were only two and a half degrees apart. On the 17th of next month they will approach within a legree and a half, and on March 17, at their next meeting, Mars will pass behind the moon. and amateur astronomers will have a rare object on which to try their telescopes. After that, at each recurring conjunction, the planet will be further away, and it will be seen that the two have changed sides, Mars, which is now south of the moon, passing then to the north of it.

Mars is now fast nearing the Piciades or ven Stars, and the contrast between the soft, diffused white light of this famous star cluster and the bold red hue of the planet of war makes a pretty picture, which will grow more striking night by night for two or three weeks to come.

# The Charity Ball.

It is anticipated that the Charity ball of 1880, nich will take place next Tuursday evening, will probady exceed in splendor as well as in the numbers to atstance those of all former seasons. The institution for the insuagement of the ball of this year being the same experience in the stocks awaited persistent | as that of former seasons gives assurance of the brit dance for the babies. Those who hold tickets will bear mind that the boxes are in charge of Mrs. Kingsland,

### WHAT IS GOING ON IN EUROPE.

The thing of greatest interest for some time past in the political and diplomatic world of Europe has been the tossing about of Ambas sadors. Russia and France took the lead in this exercise. After recalling Count Schouvaloff from England, the Emperor Alexander ordered Prince Alexis Lobanow-Rostovsky to exchange Constantinople for London. At the same time Privy Councillor Eugene Novikow has been transferred from his post as Ambas sador in Vienna to Constantinople. The Tartar Privy Councillor, who bears the Franco-German name of Paul Oubril, and has for years represented Russia at Berlin, has been trans-ferred to Vienna; while Privy Councillor Sabourow, Minister at Athens, has been sent to the Court of the German Emperor.

In France the commotion in the diplomatic world has been no less great. M. de Saint Vallier, who has been a favorite with the German Emperor and Prince Bismarck, tendered his resignation the very moment he learned that M. Waddington was no longer Prime Minister. The combined efforts of President Grévy and Prince Bismarck persuaded M. de Saint Vallie to remain at his post; but his resignation has been accepted, and he is now at liberty to re turn to his seat in the Senate whenever he chooses. M. Fournier, the French Ambassador at Constantinople, has also expressed his determination to resign and to return to the Senate. Gen. Chanzy, the Ambassador to Russia. has likewise intimated his desire to return home; while Admiral Pothnau, the French Am bassador in London, was so disturbed by re ports about his post having been offered without his knowledge to M. Waddington, that he is said to have sent a request for explanations

to the new Prime Minister, M. de Freyeinet. Most of these resignations are easily ex plained by the fact that the representatives of France at the European courts are members of the Left Centre, and don't wish to remain in office in the absence of full information as to the policy of the new Cabinet. They prefer their seats in the Senate and the Assembly to a foreign mission, from which they can be recalled at the caprice of the Prime Minister. As M. de Freycinet is by no means a radical it is to be hoped that most of these resignations

will be withdrawn and that the diplomatic representation of France at the foreign courts will remain what it was under M. Waddington.

The vigorous pooh-pooning of Edison's electric light goes on unremittingly among the savants of France, but the Columbus of Menlo Park may be reminded that the suggestion of the use of gas for lighting Paris and London met at first with the same contemptuous incredulity and chaff. Winser, the German, who made the first experiments in lighting a street in London with gas was looked upon as lunatic. Sir Humphry Davy, the great chemist of his day, called it "an impossibility," and Si Walter Scott, in one of his letters home, says There is a madman proposing to light the London streets with smoke."

The shareholders of the first gas company were looked upon as fools and idiots; the lunacy of an old gentleman was made out and his confinement in an asylum secured by the statement before the commission that he believed in It was not until Queen Victoria had reigned several years that the whole of London was lit by the new method.

In Paris the use of gas in the streets has just turned its fiftieth year. The same opposition prevailed there at first, and in the old numbers of the Figaro of 1829, then edited by Nestor Roquepian, is a series of very curious articles on the warfare existing between " la mêche et le tuyau de gaz." Ocean steamers met with the same ridicule at first, and Lord Brougham's offer on the floer of the House of Lords to swallow whole the first steamer that crossed the Atlantic is still remembered. Last, but not least, must be quoted the disheartening struggles of Morse to obtain recognition and protection for his telegraph. His application to Congress for aid, in 1837, met with howls and jeers; he was refused letters patent in England, and obtained only a useless brecet d'incention in Paris. Yet he lived to see the complete success of his invention, and at his death was probably the most profusely decorated American ever known.

Whatever may be the popular view in America concerning the fidgetty and superficial nature of the French, there is no question that they are always in the front rank whenever a great discovery or enterprise is concerned. They were the first to encourage the Suez Canal English, and they are the first again to encourage the project of the trans-Saharian Railroad, A short time ago they sent out a semi-scientific and semi-military commission without making the slightest noise about it. If England had done as much, the fact would have been trumpeted for weeks in the newspapers and discussed in Parliament. In this case not a word was said, and half a dozen military engineers under the presidency of Lieut,-Col. Fiatters, formerly commander of the Third Battalion of Turcos, have started, via Marseilles and Algiers, for Timbuctoo, to find out which will be the most convenient route for the projected railway, the construction of which has now been definitely

It may be added here that the first man to enter the unknown regions of central Africa was Réné Caillé, also a Frenchman. He did so without guides or escort. Passing a year with the Moors of Bern Kernh, he learned the languege of the Arab, and made himself familiar with the manners and customs of the desert, and, of course, with the Mohammedan religion "The point is," said the Hon. S. S. Cox | Then, under the costume of a Mussulman and passing himself off as an Egyptian slave, Cailla under the name of Abdallah, gained the banks pithy and prefound observation to the study of | of the Niger, and, in spite of wounds, fevers and scurvy, at last reached Timbuctoo, the capital of the Soudan.

> The sufferings he endured in this deadly climate undermined his health. He died at the age of 39, and is now almost forgotten.

The sale of the property of Prince Demidoff at San Donato, near Florence, is a positive fact, for it has been officially advertised in all the Paris newspapers to take place on March 1. The catalogue includes pictures, sculptures, bronzes, jewelry, tapestry, furniture, books, carriages, wines, and even the plants in the park. M. Charles Pillet and M. Charles Manuheim of Paris, and M. Victor Le Roy of Brussels have been appointed commissioners of the sale. From them and from the treasurer of the Palace of San Donato can be obtained the catalogue and full particulars.

German drama in the height of its present perfection, should go next July to Munion, to assist at the performances which Herr Possart. manager of the Royal Bayarian Court Timatre, is organizing there under the title of " Muster Vorstellung." The German and English newspapers give the following list of actors and actresses engaged to take part:

From the Berliner Hoftheater-Frag Micross, Friet-Herren Cari Brudhet, Herrich, Privilen, Franz Herz, H. Innir Kunge, Lynn Pennatt, Ser, Emil Robele, and Bernhard Buthing.

The reportoire is to consist exclusively of | for going to dancing parties and playing light and to plays which, if not all classical, yet aspire to become so some day. They comprise "Minna ven Barnhelm," "Emilia Galotti, "and "Nathan der Weise" (Lessing): "Clavigo," "Egmont," and "Torquato Tasso" (Goethe): "Kabale and Liebe," "Wallensteins Lager," "Piecolomini." plays which, if not all classical, yet aspire to Wallensteins Tod," and (Schiller); "Der Zerbrocksna Krug" (Kleist); bes and "Julius Casar," "Macheth," "Wintermarchen," "Hamlet" (Shakespeare.)

The great theatrical novelty in Paris is the Planquette, produced at the Opera Comique. The music is said to be exceptionally pleasing | to open the court with a fervent prayer

and tuneful. Mile. Granter and Mile. Desclaum

sing the chief rôles. England has a new celebrity in the line of sculpture in the person of Mr. Bochm, to whom Queen has lately given sittings for the new die for medals and for the currency. Her Majesty has insisted on being represented as she now appears, and not in any fanciful alls-gorical manner. Mr. Boohm is also to execute a marble bust of the late Princess Alice and one of the late Prince Imperial. He has in of Mr. Gladstone, and one of Mr. Ruskin.

hand, too, a bust of the Duke of Elinburgh, one Our Irish citizen, who imagined that there was some unfathomable and indiscoluble connection between the history of Ireland and that of the Catholic Church, might derive a useful lesson from the fact that in the whole of Cardinal Cullen's library there was found only one book on Irelan I, and that was a presentation copy, The reading of the Cardinal consisted chief, of theological works, and all of these were for

#### THE CIRCULATION OF THE BUN

An Open Letter to the Hon. John Kelly. SIR: You have lately caused to be publish. ed in this city an allegation that the statement of THE SUN'S circulation during one printed in this journal on Dec. 28, 1879, is tales

That statement was as follows: 107.95 118.06

eign.

Total for the week ...... 859 447 As the business manager of THE SUN. I re-

pond to your challenge as follows I will deposit the aum of (\$5,000) five thousand dollars in the keeping of Francis A. Palmer, President of the Broadway National Bank, and you. Mr. John Kelly, shall do the same. These deposits shall await the decision of a committee to be composed of Sinclair Tousey, Esq., President of the American News Company, the Hon, John Kelly, Comptroller of the City of Ner York, and David M. Stone, Esq., editor of the New York Journal of Commerce. If this committee, after a full, minute, and thorough examination-for which purpose they shall have access to our books, papers, press room, and mailing room-do not find that the circulation of THE SUN for the week in question was correctly stated in the above figures, then I authorize Mr. Palmer to pay my \$5,000 to the trustees or managers of the Roman Catholic

over by Mr. Palmer to the same charity, and OFFICE OF THE SUN, NEW YORK, Jan. 9, 1880

Orphan Asylum of New York and to pay your

\$5,000 back to you. If, on the contrary, they

find that the circulation of THE SUN was cor-

rectly stated, then your deposit shall be pai

### SUNBEAMS.

-The Second Baptist Church of Harlem is about to build a new house of worship, with an elegant

parsonage attached. -A colored brother who stole a clock from a Methodist church near Camden, N. J., has been sentenced to four years of hard labor in the State prison

-Mrs. Amanda Smith the old colored lady who let the washtub to devote herself to evangelical abor, has gone to India. and when last beard from was preaching the Gospel to the heathen sinners of Bombay The Intien Mirror welcomes her to Calcutta. Her and ences have been large, and she is said to have accomplished much good. She is outspeken in her declaration of the doctrine of perfection in holiness.

The saints and sinners of Philadelphia are to begin to-day the enjoyment of the privilege of lis-tening to the powerful appeals of the Widow Van Cott. This emirent evangetist has made arrangements for a course of revival services at the Methodist Episcopa Church of the Messiah. She comes with the stimulus of a long series of successful meetings, at which many sinners are said to have become convinced of the error of their ways. Mrs. Van Cott is in her accustomed health

and vigor, and her voice has lost non cofits wonted power -Under the title of "Pulpit Swindling," Prof. William C. Wilkinson writes to the Examinar con-cerning the men who "absorb" of er men's sermons, and then pass them off for their own. He takes strong ground in favor of driving every such plagiarist out of the pulpit and branding him with the name of "Pulpit awindler." He would bar the pulpit from them with a barricade "as high as heaven, as deep as Hades, and as wide as the borizon." There is no doubt that a barricade thus constructed would effectually keep these men, how ever agile, from resting their clows on the sacred desk

-St. Patrick's Protestant Episcopal Cathedral in Dublin is now supported by voluntary centri butions, and everybody who attends worship under its roof is expected to pay something. On Christmas the crowd numbered nearly 4,000, and it was reasonable to expect a fair collection. To the great eligust of the off of our money, not averaging more than a cent from each person present. It was considered a mean piece of business on the part of the people, and the clergymen freely spoke about it. As there are always in a congregated see that there were a good many stingy fellows who gave nothing at all.

-The Rev. John Miller, who was some time and ousted from the Presbytery, has ever since been preaching the doctrines of his belief at Stony Brook and Plainsborough, near Princeton, N. J., where mail church buildings have been placed at his disposal. He is now going to have a church of his own in Princeion, which will be much more convenient both for himself and for those who want to hear him. The new editor will be plain in style, cruciform in shape, and moderate as to its cost. It will be almost under the shadow of the theological seminary, and will be known by the name of the "Old Church." Mr. Miller claims that his doctrines are strictly scriptural, and that they have all the six New Testament faith. Many of the young men of the college and seminary are in sympathy with Mr. Miller sors of both institutions, and promises to be the enterin

wedge of a serious oifficulty

-The International Sunday School lesson tor to-day is about the Temptation of Jesus, and s in Matthew iv.: 1-11. It marrates the events which took place after the haptism of our Saviour. Under Satin's iffuence Jesus was taken into the desert country nes the Jordan or the Dead Sea and subjected to accurre of strange temptations. The devit made three several as-saults upon Him. The first appeal was to the exhausted b) sical nature, suggesting that after a fast of forty days lesus should prove his divinity by chaozing stones to broad. The second appeal was to the ability togeth. uperhuman phwer, demanding that Jesus should ca imself from a pinnacle of the temple without suffering sus all the kingdoms of the earth on condition that h would tall down and worship satan. Jesus showed his divine nature by resisting each and all of these tempts-tions. The varioushed tempter fled from the presence of the victorious Lord, and angels came with their min trations to him whom they were glad to serve. The lesson teaches the bimanity of Jesus, in that he was tempted inst as human beings are. It teaches also his divinity, in that he was able to resist the fevil and t numb over his canning devices. The "golden text of the lesson hole the winner story in a few words. "For in that he himself buth, suffered, being tempted, he is Americans who intend being in Europe next summer, and who are desirous of seeing the verses of the sermon on the Monot.

-During the past eight or ten days there as been the most remarkable succession of remarkable events in regard to eleganners. The Kenney brother roung affor may up repriately head the list, while heat is the same line of example of recommenty comes the to her pastor's strape, growing out of the known of has retreated from the dangers and threats of his first at Hoboken, and has earned his effects to the house of a re after in the city of Churches and church fights. The light shed on the inner workings of the Shepherd's Fold presents Brother Cowley in a bighty uncovable phase The searcial in Brother Pani's Second German Papiel Church is happily smoothed over Sister Paul dictions to press her charges, and the brethren agreeing telesquee and forget everything. A prominent Presonance dergemants charged with hoonedships with Unitatial and some of his associates want to know what is 2002 to be done about it. Bishop Littlephin has promitted the Res. Mr. Sparks from conducting services in the don-20 of Long Libral. Col. Bob Ingersal accuses the 66%. Fravine Josephus Cook of Dang. A chargeman near City council space from the point consumer has ody against "Willielm Tell" of a rival preactor that the account had eaved some a Krug" (Kielet); bale's torkey roost from one Sandatt's sponation. In cheth," "Winterof his wife, our scharge of stealing hers. The benefit opera of "Les Voltigeurs de la 32me." by evangelist wastroaght into court on the charge of seepme an unneensed doc. This good man took upon himself